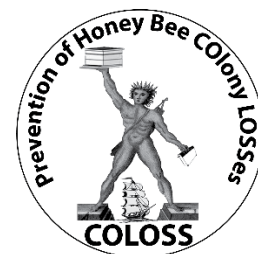


COLOSS

Honey Bee Research Association



Dear Trustees of the Eva Crane Trust,

Greetings from Montréal, Canada! The site of not only this year's COLOSS Conference, but also Apimondia 2019.

On behalf of our 1,305 members from around the world, I would like to express my many thanks for the Trust's support of our association. This year our event took place just before Apimondia, on the 7th and 8th of September. It was hosted by Pierre Giovenazzo and his team at the Université Laval's Montréal campus, right in the heart of the city.

This year's event was our best attended yet! One-hundred-sixty-nine members from 36 countries attended (Figure 1). We were absolutely thrilled by this, since we were unsure what our attendance numbers would be given that this was the first COLOSS conference hosted outside of Europe.



Figure. 1. Attendants of our 2019 COLOSS Conference in Montréal, Canada. Photo: N. Carreck.

Like previous conferences, this year's event included two General Assembly meetings, one Executive Committee meeting, a poster session that included 34 presentations, and 9 Core Project and Task Force workshops (Figure 2). The meeting started with a welcome address by Dr. Giovenazzo. Then, similar to previous meetings, participants received updates from each of our Core Projects (Monitoring, *BEEBOOK*, B-RAP) and Task Forces (Apitox, Bee Breeding, CSI Pollen, Small Hive Beetle, *Varroa* Control, *Varroa* Survivors, Vespa, Viruses). The meeting wrapped up with a final General Assembly, and announcement of this year's student poster prize, which was awarded to University of Saskatchewan doctoral student Sarah Wood (Figure 3).

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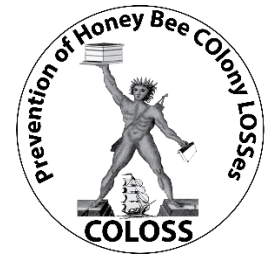


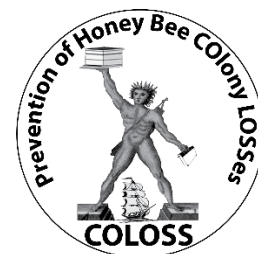
Figure 2. President Peter Neumann addressing the COLOSS General Assembly.
Photo: P. Chantawannakul.



Figure 3. The COLOSS Conference Student Award Committee, consisting of Asli Ozkirim, Per Kryger, Raffaele Dall'Olio, and Robert Brodschneider, award this year's award to Sarah Wood.
Photos: P. Chantawannakul.

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Besides occurring outside Europe for the first time, three other important milestones took place. First, COLOSS held concurrent sessions with the Bee Informed Partnership, a non-profit organization that works closely with beekeepers in the United States (Figure 4). This yielded great discussions about future trans-Atlantic networking opportunities.



Figure 4. Karen Rennich and Nathalie Steinhauser introduce COLOSS to the Bee Informed Partnership. Photo: P. Chantawannakul.

The second milestone was the election a new Executive Committee (Figure 5). Those elected to a new 3-year term were Maria Bouga (Greece), Tjeerd Blacquiere (The Netherlands), Robert Brodschneider (Austria), Norman Carreck (United Kingdom), Panuwan Chantawannakul (Thailand), Raffaele Dall'Olio (Italy), Vincent Dietemann (Switzerland), Anna Gajda (Poland), Ales Gregorc (Slovenia), Lotta Fabricius Kristiansen (Sweden), Peter Neumann (Switzerland), Asli Özkirim (Turkey), Christian Pirk (South Africa), Victoria Soroker (Israel), and Geoff Williams (United States). Of those elected, Peter Neumann was elected President, Geoff Williams and Panuwan Chantawannakul as Vice Presidents, and Vincent Dietemann as Secretary/Treasurer.

The third milestone was the creation of a new Task Force. Focused on bee nutrition, it is headed by Simone Tosi and Michel Bocquet, and will host its first workshop in 2020.



Figure 5. The 2016-2019 COLOSS Executive Committee held its final meeting in Montréal.

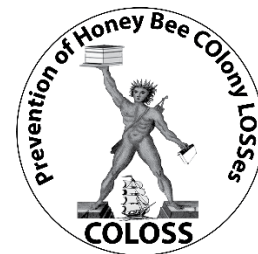
Acknowledgement of conference support by the Eva Crane Trust occurred both during the build-up to the meeting, as well as in Montréal. Examples include:

- The Eva Crane Trust logo on our homepage (<http://www.coloss.org/>)
- The Eva Crane Trust logo on the header of the online conference registration form
- The Eva Crane Trust logo on the front and back pages of our conference proceedings (see accompanying Proceedings pp. 1 & 50).
- The Eva Crane Trust logo on conference posters and banners present at the venue (Université Laval à Montréal)
- Acknowledgement of the Eva Crane Trust by COLOSS President Peter Neumann in the proceedings and during the conference's welcome address (see accompanying Proceedings p. 4)
- Acknowledgement of the Eva Crane Trust via Chairman Richard Jones' Letter to COLOSS (see accompanying Proceedings p. 5)

We hope that our efforts to recognize your important contribution are fitting!

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We wholeheartedly appreciate your commitment to COLOSS, and look forward to furthering our partnership in the future.

For your convenience, I have also attached our Proceedings.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions concerning this report, or COLOSS in general.

With best regards,

Geoff Williams
COLOSS, Vice President.